

An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. §1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

Claim 7 was cancelled without prejudice to the filing of a divisional or continuing application.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Stephanie Wardwell on February 25, 2010.

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

Examiner has reviewed all of the newly submitted prior art now of record and has found no disclosure therein, taken alone or in combination with prior art already of record, that would support a new prior art rejection. More specifically, the references, including those citing Mssr. Sekine (applicant herein) as a co-author, differ from the instant process claims because, while the process goal is the same as herein, the prior art references present processes wherein there is only a single catalyst/promoter added to the reaction, while in the instant claims a pair of substances selected from two different groups of compounds are required additives, a combination not found to have been disclosed or taught as a limitation applied to any phosphoramidite coupling reaction in any prior art reference presently of record.

Examiner has also reviewed applicant's amendments together with the above amendment and finds that examiner's previous suggestions concerning amendments necessary to achieve allowability have been entered into the claims save for the duplication found in the above cancelled claim, a problem (failure to further limit) solved by the above amendment.

Therefore, the instant claims, not having any new grounds of rejection determined to be applicable, are found to be allowable as presently of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably **accompany** the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons

for Allowance."

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 via facsimile transmission (FAX). The transmission of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette (1096 OG 30, November 15, 1989). The telephone number to FAX (unofficially) directly to Examiner's computer is 571-273-0651. The telephone number for sending an Official FAX to the PTO is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner L. E. Crane whose telephone number is **571-272-0651**. The examiner can normally be reached between 9:30 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ms. S. Anna Jiang, can be reached at **571-272-0627**.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group 1600 receptionist whose telephone number is **571-272-1600**.

All Post-Allowance Correspondence concerning this application must be mailed to:

BOX ISSUE FEE
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

OR you can FAX them to the Office of Patent Publications at 571-273-8300, in order to expedite the handling of such correspondence as amendments under 37 C.F.R. §1.312; Information Disclosure Statements (IDS's), and formal drawings. Sending Post-Allowance papers to Technology Center 1600 will only cause delays in matching papers with the case.

For information concerning status of correspondence sent after receipt of the Notice of Allowance, please contact the Correspondence Branch at **571-272-4200**. The Notice of Allowance also has an insert containing contact information for other items, including Issue Fees, receipt of formal drawings, and the status of the application.

LECrane:lec
02/28/2010

/Lawrence E. Crane/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1623

L. E. Crane
Primary Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600